

Southwester

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council, Inc.

FREE

SERVING SOUTHWEST

June 1966

Featherweight Champion of the World. Congratulations Mark! Southwest is proud of you...

by Donna Alston

Mark Johnson, International Boxing Federation Featherweight Champion of the World. That has a nice ring to it. Although he is only 24, he has been in many boxing matches. His father was/is his trainer.

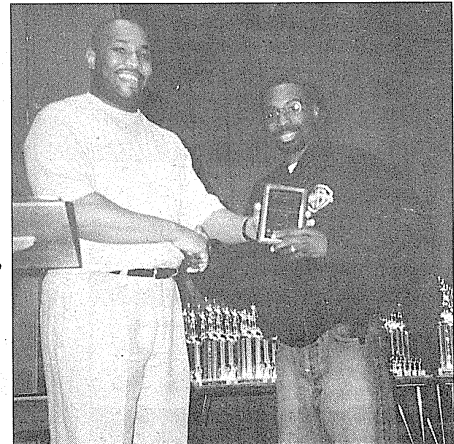
His many years of hard work have paid off. He just defeated Francisco Dehede from Colombia, South America. The fight was televised on HBO. It was held in Anaheim, California. Mark expressed that winning this was his dream come true.

On Thursday, May 9th, the Police Boys & Girls Club - #4 honored him. He remembers his roots and gives to his community. He purchased the football uniforms for the Boys & Girls Club.

He's an active member of 2nd Baptist Church - Southwest.

Mark, we applaud you for all your good qualities:

**You are kind
You are generous
And a devoted family man.**



Alvin Hudgens, left, gives the Community Service award to World Champion boxer, Mark Johnson.

Vera M White was selected for the Father Haddad Community Service Award

by Rick Bardach

The Southwest Community House has selected Mrs. Vera M. White, Principal of Jefferson Junior High School to be this years recipient of the Father Norman Haddad Community Service Award.

Mrs. White will be honored at the social service agency's Third Annual Gala Reception aboard the C. Lyssiey on Saturday afternoon, June 22.

This event is Southwest House's main fundraiser for the year. Reservations for the reception are \$35 per person, and can be made by contacting the Community House at 488-7210. The agency is also seeking supporters to be benefactors (\$1500), sponsors (\$1000), patrons (\$500), contributors (\$250) and friends (\$125). Anyone interested should call the SWCH Executive Director, Rick

Bardach.

Mrs. White is acclaimed for her leadership in rejuvenating Jefferson. Having fallen to the bottom rung in academics and discipline, she helped turn the junior high into a federally recognized "school of excellence". Under her leadership, the school formed educational partnerships with the Challenger Center for Space Education and with Comsat. She is also commended for her one-on-one style of working with students, greeting them as they arrive in the morning and urging them to get to their classes on time.

Southwest Community House, founded in 1901, is the primary social service agency for the near Southwest.

Take a stand on June 1...

Our children's and young people's future is in your hands. Attend the **Stand for Children** and bring your children, family and friends. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial.

For more information, call the Stand for Children office at (202) 234-0095.

Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club-#4 Awards Night

Boys and girls from age 8 to age 17 were honored for their athletic skills at the annual awards banquet of Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club #4 which was held in the Bowen School auditorium.

The Male and Female awards for Outstanding Members were given to Wayne Mack and Dontria Brawner. They were voted by their fellow clubmembers.

Former Club #4 member and University of Connecticut basketball great, Phillip Gamble was the keynote speaker. Mark Johnson, the new IBF featherweight champion and Wallace Perry, director Greenleaf OSAY received Outstanding Community Service Awards. These two awards were voted on by over 200 clubmembers.

Both Mark Johnson and Phillip Gamble grew up here in Southwest D.C. and were active in athletics from an early age. Master of ceremonies for the evening was Wayne Mack. Presentations were made by Dontria Brawner. Special Community awards were made by Club #4 director Alvin Hudgens.

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SWNA:

The SWNA Meeting will be on Wed., May 29th at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3rd & M St. Come & support our community. Hear how action will be taken to keep the Waterfront and the surrounding communities free of parked busses and litter. Also, learn about events at the SW Community House.





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The Piñata

To the happy cries of "uno, dos, tres, dale, dale, a la piñata (one, two, three, hit, hit the piñata)", Kindergarten children at Amidon Elementary School recently celebrated this Mexican activity as part of their early learning years program.

Before the event, the children had learned the custom of the piñatas, their colors, shapes and weight. Each child had happily participated in filling the piñatas with candy. After the piñatas were hung outside, each child was blindfolded and given an opportunity to break the piñatas. Four parent volunteers helped with the outdoor celebration. Parent participation is a major component of the learning program. We couldn't do it without them.

Celebrating Older Americans Month...

GRANDMA

In the dim and distant past
When life's tempo wasn't fast,
Grandma used to rock and knit,
Crochet, tat and babysit.

When the kids were in a jam
They could always count on Gran
In an age of gracious living
Grandma was the gal for giving.

Grandma now is in the gym
Exercising to keep slim.
She's off touring with the bunch
Taking clients out to lunch.

Driving north to ski or curl,
All her days are in a whirl.
Nothing seems to really shock her
Now that grandma's off her rocker!

Author unknown

The Southwester

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Drop off your stories by June 8, 1996, in the box behind the counter at the SW Library, 3rd & I SW, or mail to: The Southwester, P.O. 70131, Washington, D.C. 20024

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Gaithersburg, MD

SW Community Calendar May—June 1996

May 21 Tuesday Ward 2 Plan Amendment Process, 7:00 pm - 8:45 pm, Watha T. Daniel Library, 8th & Rhode Island Ave., NW

May 22 Wednesday Book Signing - Thomas Watson, Jr., author of *Connecting People*, noon - 2 pm, Southwest Branch Library, Wesley & K St., SW

May 23 Thursday Zoning Commission Public Hearing on Southwest Urban Renewal Plan (Case 95-15), 7:00 pm, Office of Zoning Hearing Room, 441 - 4th St., NW, Suite 220

May 29 Wednesday Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Meeting, St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 7:00 pm, 22 M St., SW

May 30 Thursday NARFE Chapter 2052, 1:30 pm, Southwest Branch Library

June 1 Saturday STAND FOR CHILDREN, Noon, Lincoln Memorial

June 4 Tuesday First District Citizens Advisory Council, 7:30 pm, 1D Headquarters, 415 4th St., SW

June 5 Wednesday WMATA Hearings on P-2 Bus Service, 2:00 pm, 600-5th St., NW

June 6 Thursday Ward 2 Plan Amendment Process, 7:00 pm, Charles Summer School, 17th & M St.s, NW

June 10 Tuesday Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D, 7:30 pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St., SW

June 18 Tuesday Ward 2 Plan Amendment Process, 7:00 pm, Charles Summer School, 17th & M St.s, NW

June 19 Wednesday AARP Chapter 4751 Luncheon Cruise 11:30 am - 2 pm *Spirit of Washington*, for info, call 554-5503

June 19 Wednesday Wiley Branton, CDC Board, 7:00 pm, St. Augustine Church, 600 M St. SW

June 20 Thursday Book Sale, Friends of the Library, 9:00 - 3:00 Waterside Mall

June 22 Saturday Southwest Community House Awards Luncheon, afternoon, *Odyssey*

**Please submit calendar items to
C.W. Hargrave, 554-8284,
before the first of each month**

Adopt-A-Block hats off...

...to 2 very faithful Adopt-A-Block cleaners & pick-uppers. Everyday, Barbara Hines-Randolf picks up trash on 3rd St., between M & L. Every other day, Tracey Hooks does her Adopt-A-Block, 3rd St., between L & K. Both are nearby residents.

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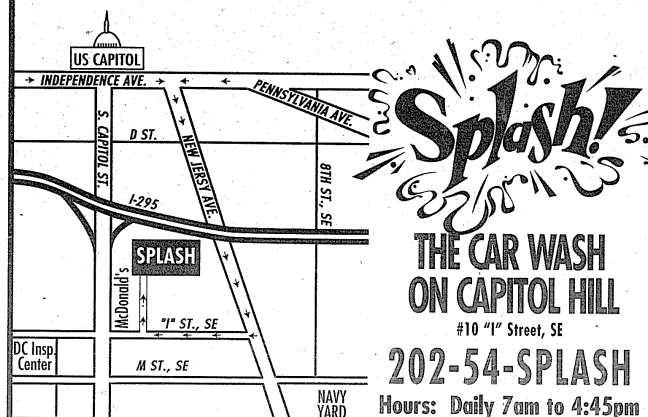
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Lawyers Have Heart Race

Not all Lawyers are heartless. Many are preparing for the American Heart Association, National Capital Affiliate's sixth 10 K and 5 K Races and Fun Walk on Sunday, June 2, 1996. The event which will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Washington Harbour, 3000 K Street, NW will benefit the AHA. Proceeds will fund research, education, and community programs. For more information or to register, call (202) 868-6888.

Every day in America...

- 15 children are killed by firearms
- 2,660 babies are born into poverty
- 2,833 children drop out of school
- 8,493 children are reported abused or neglected

America ranks...

- 12th among 15 nations in mathematics achievement of 13-year olds
- 18th among industrialized countries in the gap between rich and poor children
- 18th in infant mortality
- 16th in living standards for our poorest children

Thomas S. Watson Jr., an inspiring author, will be at Southwest Library on May 22...

The Southwest Branch (DC Public Library) is hosting a book signing for Thomas S. Watson, Jr., author, inspirational speaker, storyteller, consultant and expert on international business, on May 22, at 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

Technology is changing business practices and human interaction at an alarming rate. These changes are causing people to rethink their methods of leading, managing, following and learning.

Connecting People offers novel ways of adjusting to these changing environments. The concepts and folktales in this book will help you hone your leadership skills or broaden your understanding of how to support the leader you have chosen to follow. Executives, managers, employees, educators, students and elected officials must understand the global imperative for change. In the changing world, successful people must think and act differently.

This book is informative, easy to read and very entertaining. The folktales featuring Deacon Willie and other popular folk characters bring you practical

strategies using humor and age-old wisdom from stories which are easy to remember. You will find yourself quoting these folktales in your own speeches, classroom lectures, seminars and office discussions.

These folktales, stories and personal observations also introduce the concept of cultural flexibility (the mental habit of overlooking superficial differences in physical appearances, personal beliefs, dietary preferences and lifestyles to find a basis for mutual respect and communication). In other words, says Wilma Randle, Chicago Tribune, "look for those things that connect you with another person—your common interests—rather than those that separate you."

Connecting People

broadens your global view and expands your vision. Ken Blanchard, co-author, **The One Minute Manager**, believes that **Connecting People** contains breakthrough thinking that will combat discrimination well beyond past or current efforts. It is a must read for leaders working within the changing marketplace, workplace, classroom or community.

Please call (202) 484-1906 to order copies of **Connecting People**, to arrange for speaking engagements or to request additional information.



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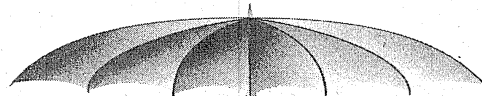
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Jefferson Junior High Highlights...

Vice President Gore visited Jefferson while taking part in the Forum on Youth Violence Prevention held Thursday, April 25. The forum was sponsored by Harvard University, the U.S. Attorney's office and Jefferson.

Other guests included D.C.P.S. Superintendent Franklin Smith; representatives from the Washington Post, CBS, NBC, ABC, including Cokie Roberts of ABC News; and students from Anacostia H.S. and several other area high schools. Many Jefferson students attended as well and all represented their school with honor.

Seventh grader Kevin Bailey (7-002) and Keshell Coleman (8-204), competing against over 125 students from across the city, won first place in the Geography Awareness Poster Contest. Each was awarded a \$100.00 cash prize. In addition, Kevin won first place in the 7th grade Black History Oratorical Contest sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority on Sunday, April 21 at Howard University.

The Jazz Band will perform

for the 10th anniversary of the Challenger Center at Union Station on Sunday, April 28 at 6:30 pm.

The award winning Jefferson Cheerleading Squad took third place in the West Regional Cheerleading Championship held May 9 at Woodson S.H.S.

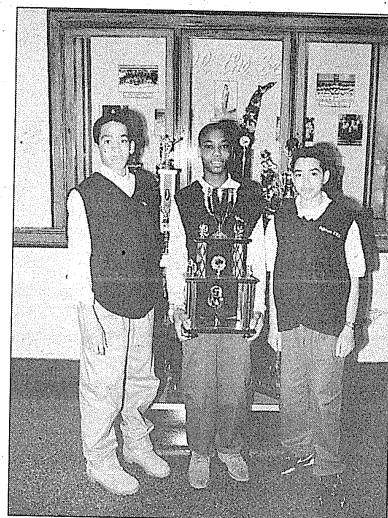
Members of Best Friends testified at a Congressional hearing April 30th on teen pregnancy prevention.

Dionne Gilchrist, Erika Strickland, Olumide Ojeifo, and Danielle Brewer's winning project board and media presentation entitled "I Deserve to Know: It's Not a Racial Thing. It's an Educational Thing," has been selected to compete in the citywide History Fair.

Several members of the U.S. Olympic Team visited Jefferson on May 1st for a school-wide assembly.

Seventh grader Jessica Huang was selected as a finalist in the 1996 Metro Student Poster Contest. The awards reception and ceremony was held on Thursday, May 7.

National Student Athlete Day was celebrated April 30th with a school-wide assembly. Twenty students and three community members were honored.



Olympian of the Month



Honoree, Rasheedah Matting did the "Welcome" and introduced Dr. Vincent Reed



Jefferson Cheerleading Squad

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The following letter was written to Councilman Jack Evan's office. The Southwester would like to share it with the community. Please bear in mind that the SWNA believes that ALL sections of SW should be kept trash-free and free of parked busses. Although this letter deals with the Waterfront, it expresses a greater ideal.

nated and/or illegal parking, and littering and dumping of trash and garbage all contribute to a situation that threatens to seriously degrade the quality of life of this area.

These illegal activities are being perpetrated by:

Crowds of tourists brought to the restaurants and/or pleasure boats by buses that also furnish box lunches and other disposable items which ultimately become trash

Bus drivers who park on Maine Avenue or Water Street leaving their motors running, creating visibility problems for other drivers, and taking up several meter spaces without putting money into them; who pay homeless persons \$10 to take trash-filled garbage bags for disposal at the homeless person's discretion (usually the street)

Workers who park their vehicles on the 6th Street traffic circle and walk to offices; folks who have lunch in their cars, toss their trash out the window, and then drive away

Folks who come to the waterfront for an evening, bring their own bottles, drink the contents, and leave the bottles on the curb or in the street

Folks who stop by Water-side Mall, purchase chips and a cola or candy bar, and eat them as they stroll to the waterfront and toss the papers and containers on lawns, sidewalks, streets, or any place they happen to be when they have finished their portable snacks.

The island separating opposite lanes of traffic on Maine Avenue is littered with trash tossed from commuters and other daily passers-by. The attitude is: WHO CARES - IT'S NOT MY NEIGHBORHOOD, AND THERE'S NO POLICE PRESENCE TO STOP ME.

Much more serious are the safety hazards created by a nonexistent police presence. Traffic and parking violations are rampant. The District government and the waterfront businesses have (mistakenly) assumed that enforcing parking, traffic, and littering laws will frighten off business. The exact opposite is true. If laws are not enforced, then criminals, apathy, and lawlessness are encouraged to flourish. Business declines in such a climate.

Please don't forget that the waterfront is also a residential area, entitled to certain city services and protections. The District government depends upon taxes garnered from these residents - those who keep the area economically and lawfully stable. The waterfront is indeed a rich resource, but like every resource, it must be maintained and protected to survive remember the children's story about the Golden Goose?

The combination of too many buses (parked on Maine Avenue or in transit), cars frantically trying to move through traffic, tour vehicles (like Gray Line, Ollie's Trolley, etc.) plying their trade, the tourists, the office workers, the runners, the fish market patrons, and the residents EVERYONE trying to occupy the same space at the same time without proper traffic controls or police presence puts too much pressure on this small area.

This type of confusion and neglect also fosters crime. And what happens when an ambulance or fire truck has to get through the phalanx of buses? Next, mix in our hot, humid Washington summer weather and we can expect one crisis after another.

However, all of this can be avoided if we can find and agree upon a course of action. We, the undersigned residents of Southwest Washington, propose that an immediate meeting of representatives of the organizations listed below take place:

The Department of Tourism, Councilman Jack Evans, Metropolitan Police, First District, Second District ANC, Washington Waterfront Association, Southwest Neighborhood Association, Fourth Street Neighborhood Group, and Residents of the Southwest waterfront

This meeting should be held in a spirit of cooperation, recognizing our mutual need to take some immediate action to restore stability to our area.

The residents realize that the waterfront presents a twofold opportunity to bring jobs and revenues (both of which are sorely needed at this time) into the District and to encourage business for the restaurants, bars, and pleasure

boats. Residents want to preserve the quality of their lives not through obstructing, but by cooperating with the District government and the waterfront businesses. All in such a way that everyone can achieve mutual goals through the establishment of a stable environment.

In order to facilitate the above, the residents propose that the Government immediately:

1. Erect signs along Maine Avenue and Water Street reading, NO BUS PARKING. BUSES MUST PARK IN THE BUZZARD POINT LOT. And name a dollar figure of a fine for noncompliance.

a. The Department of Tourism should require that all bus companies traveling to Washington preregister with them before the tourist season. Bus companies should be assessed a fee that will cover expenses due to extra policing, paperwork, wear and tear to city streets, and repairs to infrastructure. Parking maps and documentation, with plenty of do's and don'ts, should be provided upon registration, i.e., guidelines for depositing trash, etc. People tend to show more respect for the laws and regulations of a city that has its act together this way.

b. Stress that buses will be fined for parking in unauthorized areas and/or allowing their motors to idle while parked.

2. Erect signs along Maine Avenue and Water Street stating, NO LITTERING OR DUMPING. FINE \$?????

3. Place trash receptacles along these streets, spaced evenly about every 150 feet, all the way from the fish market to the police pier on both sides of the street, and provide regular, adequate garbage collection service.

4. Provide shifts of police presence and traffic enforcement (including regular meter monitoring and ticketing) to issue fines and tickets to keep traffic moving efficiently and to ensure that parking laws are not violated. And, to discourage littering, dumping and other criminal activity.

If we all work together in a cooperative spirit, we can achieve our mutual goals within a stable environment.

Theater Review

BLITHE SPIRIT

Noel Coward

by Wallace Babington

The drawing room has traditionally been the site of English comedy that most typically expresses our understanding of what the English upper class is like. Theater and movies have used that setting to portray class distinctions and prejudices as well as the sophistication and humor that lie beneath the upper class veneer. No theater piece does this better than Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit." This is a ghost story that is hilarious, demented and without a serious thought related to English society, after-life or morals.

The story line on which hang the fun and games of this farce involves a novelist who invites a spiritualist to his home in hopes of gaining information for the book he is writing. The spiritualist holds such a powerful and successful seance that the writer's first wife returns from the psychic other world and stays around to add complexity and mayhem to the domestic arrangements. The second wife is less than pleased to have the mischievous first wife stirring up trouble with long forgotten and hidden stories of the past. Add to this situation a ditsy maid and crazy neighbors who drop by occasionally. That plot is simply a framework for the absurdities and high-spirited repartee that form the basis for this witty and sophisticated farce.

The production could be subtitled Ladies Night: A special award should be given to Pamela Nyberg for taking the thankless role of the second wife and making her an almost likeable comedic character who gets more than her share of laughs. That role is usually one viewed as the straight character who serves as the source of other players' humor. Also exceptional is Tana Hicken who plays the spiritualist - a role forever associated with that remarkable English character actress Margaret Rutherford. Ms Hicken plays her with inventive creativity and gusto; the role belongs to her. Sarah Marshall turns the maid into a bundle of tics and turns that produce laughter even when she just stands on the stage staring straight ahead; she is a remarkable actress who always displays ingenuity and skill.

If the evening seems a little longer than necessary, it is because the play is really a one joke situation. There is not enough material there to support an entire evening of fun; things begin to run a little thin before the final joke is set in motion. But it is still an enjoyable evening - just watching these actresses carry out farcical, witty nonsense is worthwhile. And the set, special effects and costumes are up to and beyond Arena's high standards.

Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward.
Directed by Kyle Donnelly. At Arena Stage
in the Kreeger Theater through June 9.

A message from the Mayor...

"Washington, DC is a special city that deserves to be cared for and maintained by all who live and work here.

The Department of Public Works, along with the League of 8000 Voters and District businesses, have worked very hard to ensure that resources are dedicated to keeping our city clean.

To that end, we will usher in a new era of enhanced service delivery through this initiative focused on education and enforcement of the new **LITTER LAW #11-13.**

We ask you to join us in this effort by following these simple rules about proper sanitation practices explained in this brochure and the litter law.

Individuals and businesses that do not obey these rules will be subject to fines ranging from \$35 to \$5,000.

We are serious about keeping our city clean and ask you to do your part.

Marion Barry Jr., Mayor

What can Southwesters do?

First thing, call SW DC LINCT at 554-5674. Let them know what services you can use and what you can do as a volunteer. Then, we can join hands in making this the best summer yet, by becoming volunteers using a Time Dollar Network.

Time Dollars are service credits where 1 hour of community service = 1 Time \$. Community service? The word is used loosely here. For example, going to the store for others, companionship, cooking, errands, teaching, tutoring, baby sitting, coaching, and much more are possibilities. Basically any service you can do may be valuable and beneficial to the community and to someone else. There is an organized way to match people with services, and The Time Dollar Network has provided software to do that. The Time Dollar Network is a non-profit organization that has given SW DC LINCT the chance to bring back the "good old-days" when neighbors helped each other and the word community had meaning. SW DC LINCT is a non-profit SW based organization which provides the opportunity to learn to earn computers and time dollars for the common good of SW DC. SW DC LINCT was officially incorporated on May 10, 1996!!

The next meeting is Tuesday June 4th at 7:30 pm at the library.

Counseling

The George Washington University provides affordable counseling to individuals in the community on issues relating to self esteem, relationships, grief, sexuality, recovery, disability and careers. The cost is \$27.00 per session. For more information or appointments, call the Counseling Laboratory at 202/994-8645.

WELCOME,
FROM THE CHURCHES
OF SOUTHWEST...

COME SHARE OUR GOOD NEWS!

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
222 M Street SW

† Multi-racial, multi-cultural congregation
† Doing God's work in DC since 1893
† Near Metro's Green Line Waterfront Station

Sunday Services at 11 a.m.
Communion Twice Monthly

**WELCOME TO
SAINT DOMINIC
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Dominican Fathers and Brothers

630 E Street, Southwest (202) 554-7863

MASSES

SATURDAY EVE: 5:15 pm
SUNDAY: 8:00 am, 9:30, 10:45 (Spanish Mass),
12:15, and 5:15 pm
HOLYDAYS: Evening before: 5:30 pm; day of:
7:30 am, 8:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 and 5:30 pm
WEEKDAYS: 7:30 pm, 8:00, 8:20, and 12:10 pm
SATURDAY: 8:20 am and 12:10 pm.

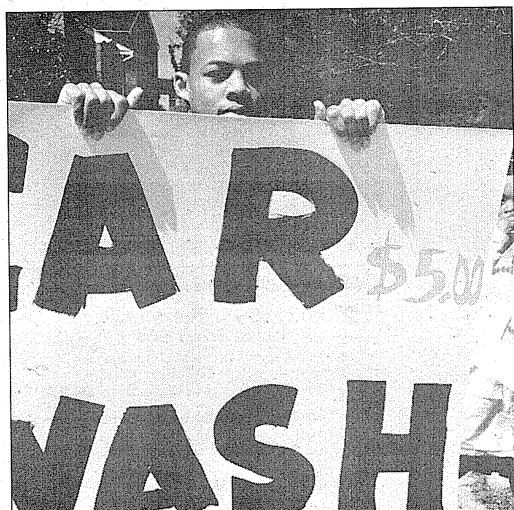
Working for justice ~ Showing God's mercy
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
400 I Street, S.W. ~ Behind Waterfront Metro

Sunday Schedule ~ Visitors Expected
~9:30AM (beginning 6/2) Bible Study
~10:30AM First Sunday--Morning Prayer
Second Sunday--Hymn Sing
Third Sunday--Healing Service
Fourth Sunday--Fellowship
~11:00AM Worship

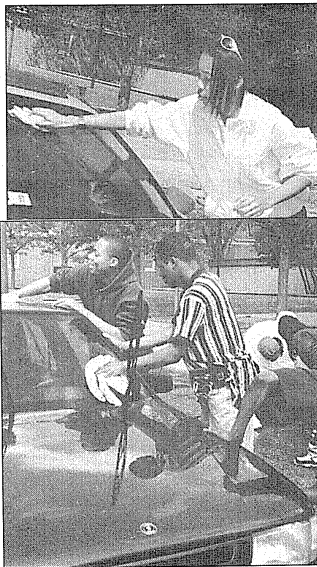
Revs. Brian & Ruth Hamilton, Co-Pastors
202-484-7700 ~ Parking Available

JOY Days: An Alternative to Cartoons

4th & I--As one response to the June 1 "Stand for Children" event at the Lincoln Memorial, Westminster Presbyterian Church will host three Saturday morning "JOY Days" for children in second and fifth grades. One June 8, 15, and 22, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, children will enjoy an active time of spiritual growth through music, drama, art games, and storytelling. JOY stands for Jesus, Others, and You and every session will address these important relationships of the Christian faith. A simple lunch will also be included. There is no charge for the sessions. The church, a modern white brick structure, is located at 4th and I across from Amidon Elementary. For a detailed flier and to register your child, call Rev. Ruth Hamilton at 484-7700. Give your child an alternative to Saturday cartoons.



Youths participating at a Car Wash to raise money for the recreation programs at Randall Center



Will you be a reading volunteer this summer...

The Southwest Book Club needs adults (or mature high school students) to commit to at least one hour a week during the summer to meet with a neighborhood child to read and encourage the child's interest in reading. The program is very

flexible - after being matched with a child, you pick a meeting time convenient for you and your child. You also pick the location - the Southwest Library (920 Wesley Place, S.W.) is a popular meeting place. The children will meet once a week with their volunteer and at least once a week as a group with other club members to read together, play games, or go on field trips. Most children will be from 7 - 13 years old. An orientation for new volunteers will be held in early June. The Southwest Book Club is one of several neighborhood book clubs, sponsored by S.T.A.R.T. (Summertime And Reading Together), a non-profit children's

summer literacy program which establishes and supports neighborhood reading programs throughout Washington, D.C. For more information, call Judy Taylor at (202) 387-7450 (home) or (703) 308-7277 (work).

Over 65 Mondays, \$1.00 off
during May and June!!!

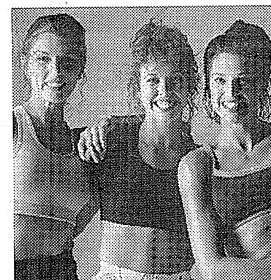
Jenny's

All You Can Eat
Lunch Buffet
\$5.95

American & Chinese
Cuisine
Home Style Cooking
11:30AM To 2:30PM
Mon. - Fri.

***UP TO 20 ITEMS**
To Choose From Daily...

Jenny's Chinese Restaurant
Waterside Mall
401 M St., SW.
Washington, DC



Exercise and you sweat...
...Jazzercise and you glow

- Fitness Made Fun • No Contracts
- Register Anytime • All Ages Welcome
- Various Formats - Step, Resistance, Balls, etc

- INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL -
4 WEEKS UNLIMITED CLASSES
FOR \$25

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

3rd & M St. SW St. Matthew's Church
15th & R St. NW 15th St. Presby. Church
16th & Kennedy NW 6th Presb. Church
444 N Capital St. NE Hall of States Building

Call
(202) 363-4447
for class times